WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method for auditing forms, the method comprising:

2   issuing a request to provide a form identifier that is associated with a form;

3   receiving the identifier at a host computer;

4   verifying with the host computer whether the identifier is a valid identifier for

5 the form being used;

6   logging an error if the identifier is not valid.

1   2.   A method as in claim 1, wherein the request is issued from a terminal

2 having a processor that is in communication with the host computer.

1   3.   A method as in claim 2, wherein the request is sent from the host

2 computer to the terminal.

1   4.   A method as in claim 1, where the request is issued from a customer

2 service operator over a phone.

1   5.   A method as in claim 2, wherein the identifier is received at the host

2 computer from the terminal.

1   6.   A method as in claim 1, wherein the host computer includes an

2 associated database, and wherein the identifier is verified by comparing the identifier with a

3 list of valid identifiers in the database.

1   7.   A method as in claim 1, further comprising determining whether an

2 appropriate form has already been ordered.

1   8.   A method as in claim 7, wherein if an appropriate form has not been

2 ordered, placing an order for an appropriate form.

1   9.   A method as in claim 8, further comprising evaluating whether the

2 ordered form is received by a user.

1   10.   A method as in claim 9, further comprising transmitting an identifier

2 for a replacement form to the host computer.

1 11. A forms auditing system, comprising:

2 a host computer; and

3 a database associated with the host computer, the database having a record of a

4 set of forms and a valid identifier for each of the forms;

5 wherein the host computer is configured to receive an identifier in response to

6 a request to audit a form, and to verify whether the identifier is a valid identifier for the

7 audited form by comparing the identifier with the identifiers in the database, and to produce a

8 record in the database of the comparison.

1 12. A system as in claim 11, further comprising a terminal having a

2 processor, wherein the terminal is configured to receive the identifier of the form being

3 audited and to electronically send the identifier to the host computer.

13. A system as in claim 12, wherein the terminal is configured to produce
an audit screen having a region for inputting the identifier.

14. A system as in claim 13, wherein the terminal is configured to produce
the audit screen based on information sent to the terminal from the host computer.

15. A system as in claim 11, wherein the host computer is configured to
generate in error report if the identifier of the form being audited is not valid.